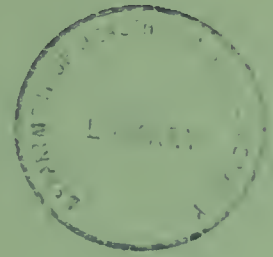


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# SHERBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



1971

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Medical Officer of Health: ESTHER JACKSON, M.B. , CH.B. , D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector: F.E. RAEburn, M.A.P.H.I.



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SHERBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Telephone: Sherborne 3225

THE MANOR HOUSE  
NEWLAND  
SHERBORNE, Dorset.

Telephone number of  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
Sturminster Newton 651

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1971

Chairman: Mrs. C. R. Rolls

The Chairman of the Council

The Vice-Chairman

Mrs. R. A. Winch  
Mr. R. J. Farrant  
Mr. E. H. King  
Mr. J. P. Riley  
Mr. J. D. Saunders

STAFF - PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
(part time)

Esther Jackson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Clerk

Mrs. A. Smith

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F. E. Raeburn, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. Wood, M.A.P.H.I.

SHERBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1971

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	1,650
Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Population	8,730
Number of dwellings	2,662
Rateable value (at 1st April 1971)	£330,350
Product of penny rate	£3,153

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>BIRTHS</u> registered		1971		Total
		Male	Female	1970
Live Births	Total	59	62	121
	Legitimate	55	58	113
	Illegitimate	4	4	8
Still Births	Total	0	2	2

<u>DEATHS</u> registered		1971		Total
		Male	Female	1970
	Total	45	48	93
	Maternal deaths	-	0	0
	Deaths of infants under			
	1 year - Total	2	1	3
	Legitimate	1	1	2
	Illegitimate	1	-	1
	Under 4 weeks of age; Total	2	1	3
	Under 1 week of age : Total	2	1	3

The succeeding table of figures shows the birth rates etc. for the Sherborne Urban District and the rates for England and Wales for comparison.

	Sherborne U.D.		England & Wales	
	1971	1970	1971	1970
Live birth rate per 1,000 est. population	13.9	12.1	16.0	16.0
Area comparability factor .....	1.42	1.42	1.00	1.0
Local adjusted rate .....	19.7	17.2	16.0	16.0
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births .....	7	9	8	8
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths .....	16	-	12	13
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births .....	25	19	18	18
I.M.R. of legitimate infants .....	18	11	17	17
I.M.R. of illegitimate infants .....	125	111	24	26
Neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 4 wks per 1000 live born .....	25	19	12	12
Early neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 1 wk per 1000 live born) .....	17	10	10	11
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 wk per 1000 total live and still births) .....	33	10	22	23
Deaths per 1,000 population .....	10.7	12.2	11.6	11.7
Area comparability factor .....	0.77	0.77	1.00	1.0
Local adjusted death rate .....	8.2	9.4	11.6	11.7

In calculating Birth and Death Rates area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" marked variations from average in the

age and sex structure of the local population and to take into account any unusually high or low mortality due to the presence of residential institutions etc. The local crude rate multiplied by the area comparability factor produces a rate comparable with rates in other parts of the country.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR

	1971			Total Total	
	Male	Female	Total	1970	1969
Tuberculosis - all forms			0	0	0
Other infective illnesses	1	0	1	0	1
Malignant Neoplasm					
Lung and bronchus	3	0	3	6	1
Breast	0	2	2	1	2
Uterus			0	0	0
Prostate			0	2	0
Stomach and intestines	0	1	1	2	5
Leukaemia	0	1	1	0	1
Other sites	3	4	7	9	8
Diabetes mellitus			0	0	0
Other endocrine etc. diseases	1	1	2	1	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	0	3	3	4	6
Ischaemic heart disease	9	8	17	16	27
Cerebrovascular disease	8	11	19	15	21
Other heart & circulatory system diseases	8	4	12	23	16
Influenza			0	5	0
Pneumonia	2	5	7	6	9
Bronchitis and emphysema	4	1	5	2	0
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0	1	0	0
Ulcer and diseases of digestive system	2	0	2	2	4
Other diseases of liver and intestines			0	1	3
Diseases of kidneys and genito-urinary system	0	1	1	2	0
Congenital anomalies & other causes of perinatal mortality	2	1	3	3	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	2	3	1	5
Motor vehicle accidents			0	1	1
All other accidents	0	1	1	3	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	0	2	2	0	2
	45	48	93	105	117

Figures for previous years are included for comparison. It is apparent that the list of numbers dying in the population of this area has little meaning unless compared with figures for the whole country; any seeming differences in trends and figures are artifacts due to the relatively small numbers of deaths in the area.

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

A. International quarantine regulations diseases

SMALLPOX

1971 marked the 175th anniversary of the first vaccination against smallpox. On May 14th 1796 Dr. Jenner, an English country doctor, carried out the first vaccination. Slowly the practice of vaccination against smallpox spread throughout the world and the widespread use of smallpox vaccine has resulted in major changes in smallpox patterns. However, as late as 1945 the majority of the world, including the United States was still considered endemic for smallpox. Our own country was one of the notable exceptions and our freedom from smallpox we merely "took for granted". During the past 26 years there have been both continuing reductions in the incidence of this killing disease and elimination of smallpox from large geographical areas. In 1945 smallpox was reported in 91 countries. In 1970 smallpox was reported from only 23 countries.

Because there is no longer a great danger of contracting smallpox when travelling abroad, vaccination regulations have been relaxed in many countries and the Department of Health no longer advocates routine vaccination of children against smallpox.

Travellers to some parts of the world are still advised to be vaccinated against smallpox and the stamping of international certificates to validate the doctors signature is still carried out in your Public Health Department.

#### CHOLERA

In England where we have hygienic disposal of human excreta and an excellent water supply it is unlikely that we will experience a serious epidemic of cholera but the possibility of outbreaks must be taken seriously. "Holiday cholera" was in the news during 1971 in Southern Europe and North Africa and the Public Health service arranged surveillance of returned holiday makers and alerted family doctors.

Vaccination has little part to play in the control of cholera in many parts of the world. Anyone from England travelling in an endemic area may well be advised to be vaccinated against cholera for his own personal protection. However a valid certificate of vaccination against cholera held by someone returning to England serves no purpose to the community, the holder could be a symptomless excreter of cholera vibrios. The protection of the public is achieved by your concern for proper sewage disposal, a good water supply and a high standard of hygiene in all places where food is stored, prepared and eaten.

#### B. Diseases against which immunisation is offered in the United Kingdom

##### TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. vaccination is offered to those children during their second or third year at secondary school, who, on testing, are found to lack immunity. B.C.G. vaccination is also offered by the hospital service to such younger children who are known to have been in contact with tuberculosis. No case of tuberculosis was notified during the year.

##### DIPHTHERIA

Again no notification was received and it is many years since a case was notified in the district. Immunisation of young children and subsequently booster doses is undoubtedly responsible for this satisfactory freedom from infection.

##### POLIOMYELITIS

No case has been notified for many years in this district. Again vaccination with oral poliomyelitis vaccine is responsible for the local freedom from this disease. Primary vaccination is given during the second half of the first year of life with a booster dose before school entry and another booster at 10 years old. For those children who are not taken to their family doctor at 10 or 11 years of age arrangements are made for the booster dose to be given in school during the 12th year of age.

##### WHOOPING COUGH

No case of this disease was notified during the year.

##### TETANUS

This disease is a severe and dangerous illness and active immunisation is offered to babies with a booster just before school entry and a further booster at 10 years old. As in the case of vaccination against poliomyelitis, a reminder is given to parents of

school children who were not taken to their family doctor at 10 or 11 years of age.

MEASLES

Vaccination against measles sometimes produces a reaction comparable to a very mild and brief attack of measles. In 1968 one of the two strains of vaccine in use was withdrawn and for a time there was a shortage of vaccine so that the level of vaccination has fallen below that which would eradicate this unpleasant disease.

58 cases of measles were notified during 1971.

GERMAN MEASLES

In July 1970 the Department of Health recommended that vaccination against rubella (german measles) should be offered to all girls between their 11th and 14th birthdays but that initially priority should be given to older girls, i.e. those in their 14th year. Vaccination was carried out by family doctors helped by the school health service.

VACCINATION STATISTICS 1971

(The term vaccination is now used internationally for procedures which in this country we used to describe as vaccination and immunisation)

DISTRICT	POLIOMYELITIS				TETANUS		WHOOPING		MEASLES	RUBELLA
	ORAL		DIPHTHERIA				COUGH			
	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R		
Sherborne Urban	97	272	91	115	111	270	87	70	104	102
<div>P = Primary course R = Reinforcing dose</div>										

TUBERCULOSIS B.C.G. vaccination

203 children were vaccinated in school in the area.

All these figures are supplied by the County Medical Officer and refer to vaccinations of children. It is not possible to compare these figures directly with those for previous years because in 1968 new schedules for the timing of injections etc. were introduced. Vaccinations are now started at 6 months of age and it is no longer necessary to give a booster dose of anti-diphtheria whooping cough and tetanus at 18-20 months. A booster dose of diphtheria and tetanus is necessary before school entry and a final booster at 10 years of age.

C. Infections against which routine vaccination is not offered.

INFECTIVE JAUNDICE

1 case was notified during the year.

FOOD POISONING AND DYSENTERY

No case of food poisoning or of dysentery was notified during the year.

## INFESTATIONS

Lice and nits have once again ceased to be a rarity among schoolchildren. This is probably a reflection of the fashion for longer, loose hair among women and men. Most of the infestations reported to the Health Authority were among school children; older patients usually go direct to their general medical practitioner for treatment.

## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratory Service has continued to give excellent service. The Dorchester Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. G. H. Tee has dealt with nearly all the work from this area.

Brucellosis in humans is not a notifiable disease but public interest in the scheme for eradication of brucellosis from dairy cattle has increased awareness of the possibility of brucellosis infection in humans.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

I am happy to be able to report that it has not been necessary to take any formal action under this Act by which the Magistrates can order the removal of an elderly person living in unsatisfactory circumstances and unable to care for himself but unwilling to be admitted to hospital when a bed is available. Some people were referred to the Medical Officer of Health by the Social Workers but we managed to persuade the old couple to accept help.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

On 1st April 1971 there were established in all the country's major Local Authorities, Social Service Departments based on the recommendations made in the Seebohm report.

In Dorset on 1st April the Welfare Services were transferred from the former Health and Welfare Department to the new Social Services Department. The Home Help and Meals on Wheels Services and much of the welfare work among the elderly are no longer the responsibility of the staff of the County Health Department.

The Urban District Council's staff have always worked closely with the former welfare officers to give the best possible help to people living in the District. This co-operation has continued throughout the year while the new County Social Services Dept. has been establishing itself.

## VOLUNTARY SERVICES

Acknowledgement must again be made to the excellent work carried out in the town by voluntary bodies.

The Chiropody Clinic for the elderly is organised by the British Red Cross Society and subsidised by the County Council. The County Clinic building in Horsecastles is used for this purpose and the clinics are held in the morning and afternoon of every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Friday and in the morning and afternoon of every 4th Tuesday.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

### NATURE OF THE DISTRICT

Sherborne is the trading centre of an agricultural area, as well as a tourist and educational centre. Principal industries are light engineering, manufacture of industrial glass fabrics, glove making, dairies and mineral water manufacturing.

### WATER SUPPLIES

#### Public Supplies

The Wessex Water Board is the authority responsible for water supplies in the Urban District. All the houses in the district have a piped mains water supply.

89 samples were taken during the year by your public health staff and all were satisfactory.

Private Supplies. Five firms have a private supply to augment the public supply; Hunt's Dairies, J. & M. Parsons, Marglass Ltd., Seymour's and the Unigate Dairy, though the latter closed during the autumn. There are boreholes at Hyle Farm and Sherborne School playing fields. 28 samples were taken and all were satisfactory.

### DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Plans and specifications of extensions to the sewage works were approved by the Council during the year.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

House refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

No. of inspectors appointed under the Act	2
Estimated No. of premises subject to registration	106
No. of premises registered	106
No. of premises inspected	21
No. of inspections carried out	40

### CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Regular observations were made at all sites. Periodic fume nuisance from Marglass Ltd. still occurs and so far attempts to deal with it have proved disappointing.

### RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT

Three premises are registered under the Act; Marglass Ltd. The Church Hall, Digby Road and The Post House Hotel.

### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

No premises are registered in the Urban District.

### SWIMMING BATHS

The public have access to two swimming baths. Samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory from these baths and from

/cont.

### SWIMMING BATHS (cont.)

all private school baths in the town. Advice on chlorination was given in several cases.

### THE CONTROL OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There is one residential site which includes a small area for caravans in transit. Eighteen inspections were made on the site.

### VERMINOUS PREMISES

Several cases of cockroach or clusterfly infestation were reported and treatment was carried out.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are four sites in the town: Coldharbour, Digby Road, Market Yard Car Park and Culverhayes Car Park. There is cold water supply for hand washing at each site but hot water is also available in the male conveniences only at Culverhayes and Digby Road. The Market Yard Conveniences have a hot water supply throughout.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent control is administered by the Urban District Council on behalf of the North Dorset Joint Rodent Committee.

157 treatments were carried out in the Urban District, a total of 460 visits being made.

### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Only one license is in force and the premises are visited from time to time.

### SANITATION OF SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SCHOOL CANTEEN HYGIENE)

All school boarding house kitchens and school canteens were inspected; the general standard was satisfactory and improvements were effected in several cases during the year.

### HOUSING

Total number of houses in the district rose to 2757

No. of dwelling houses inspected during the year	143
No. of inspections made	334
No. of informal notices served	33
No. of informal notices complied with	27

No statutory notices were served.

No houses were reported under Section 16 Housing Act, 1958

No houses were included in Clearance Areas during the year but 3 houses were withdrawn from such an area and improved with the aid of Improvement Grants.

### OVERCROWDING

No case of statutory overcrowding was reported during the year.

### HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

4 houses are known to be so let.

### HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received.

### HOUSING ACT 1969

6 applications for Qualification Certificates were refused and 30 were granted.

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

No. of applications received during the year:-

	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Discretionary</u>
No. granted	20	4
No. pending	-	2

### NEW HOUSES

99 new dwellings were provided by private enterprise during the year though none was provided by the Local Authority.

### REHOUSING

29 families were housed by the Local Authority

### HOUSING APPLICATIONS

183 applicants for a Council house were resident within the district at the end of the year while 95 applicants resided outside.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

#### 1. Milk

The Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

One 'dairy' is registered in the district and one 'distributor'.

#### Samples

During the year 36 samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for bacteriological examination; all were found to be satisfactory. No Brucella Abortus samples were taken by your Authority.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES (cont.)

### 2. Other Food Premises

#### (a) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

Details of food premises subject to the above Regulations:

Trade	No. of Premises	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Hotels 7	11	11	11	11
Cafes	5	5	5	5
Public Houses	9	9	9	9
Clubs	4	4	4	4
Church Halls	5	2	5	5
Canteens - Schools	10	10	10	10
Confectioners	3	4	3	3
Meat & Fish	8	8	8	8
Grocers	5	5	5	5
Mixed Stores	11	11	11	11
Boarding Schools	21	21	21	21
Food Factories	1	1	1	1
Others	1	1	1	1
Residential Institutions	4	4	4	4
Greengrocers	4	4	4	4
Stalls	4	4	4	4
Total	106	104	106	106

No. of such premises inspected during the year 99  
No. of inspections carried out 341

(b) No. of premises subject to registration under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 in respect of:

(i)	Ice Cream	26
(ii)	Sausages & Prepared Meats	2
(iii)	Fish & Chips	2

No. of samples of ice cream submitted for Methylene Blue Tests - 65

(c) Condemned food is buried on the Council tip.

(d) Bye-laws in respect of the handling and wrapping of food are operative in the district.

#### Slaughterhouses

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district.

#### Meat Inspection

- (a) At slaughterhouses as per attached schedule
- (b) At butchers and other shops 35 inspections were made and 170 lbs. of meat were surrendered as unfit.

SHERBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned

1971

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	341	2	1,106	398
Number Inspected				
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	28	-	70	90
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	8.86%	-	6.33%	22.87%

6

No carcase was condemned because of either tuberculosis or cysticercosis.

Other Foods

191 lbs. of various foods were surrendered and 865 packets of frozen foods were condemned due to refrigeration failures.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS (INCLUDING HOUSING) CARRIED OUT

Total No. of inspections (under all headings)	2831
Total No. of informal notices served	34
Total No. of informal notices complied with	28
Total No. of statutory notices served	0
Total No. of statutory notices complied with	0
No. of prosecutions	1

# FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	47	42	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	49	43	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To HM Inspector (4)	By HM Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-			
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-			
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-			
Inadequate ventilation	-	-			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3			
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork:	-	-			
Total	3	3			

## PART VIII of the Act.

### Outwork

69 outworkers were employed in the making, cleaning and washing etc. of wearing apparel (mostly gloving).



